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AT REPUBLICAN FISH FRY

Rep. Cramer Slams Kennedy Policies

U.S. Rep. William C. Cramer last night called President John F. Kennedy's greeting of Algerian Premier Ahmed Ben Bella a "\$100 million handclasp" that went sour. Cramer flung criticism after criticism at the Kennedy administration — accenting the Cuban crisis — at a Republican fish fry at Lake Maggiore, St. Petersburg. Cramer is seeking reelection to Congress Nov. 6.

HE REFERRED to the Ben Bella visit as "the greatest failure in judgment" Kennedy has shown thus far. "After leaving Washington, Ben Bella went straight to Castro where they embraced each other, shook hands and traded medals," Cramer charged.

"Who knows how much Kennedy agreed to give Ben Bella?"

Cramer asked. Cramer called the attempt to swap \$62 million in goods for the prisoners of the Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba a farce.

"I CALL IT Kennedy's economic science fund," he shouted. Cramer charged outright that the Kennedy administration is authorizing funds to finance the exchange.

The exchange — goods for prisoners — is being negotiated by James B. Donovan, a New York state candidate on the Democratic ticket for U.S. senator.

He said it is no secret "Donovan is using the taxpayers' money" to finance the exchange. "Donovan is in and out of Bobby's (Robert Kennedy, U.S. Attorney General) office enough."

"THIS PRISONER deal smells like a forerunner of a co-existence policy," Cramer argued.

Cramer said there is \$60 million in funds the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is given yearly, and even Congress doesn't know or can't know how they spend it.

"They (the Kennedy administration) will make up the difference in the ransom money that Donovan can't supply and it will come from the \$60 million in CIA funds."

CRAMER SAID this was part of the New Frontier's appeasement policy. He said that American inactivity in Cuba, Laos and at the Berlin Wall has caused the world to "laugh at us."

The President, Cramer claimed, "has been off the job more than any President in this country's history" and is never around when needed.

"Kennedy needs some backbone and intestinal fortitude," Cramer concluded.

PRIOR TO Cramer's talk, GOP candidate for the U.S. Senate, Emerson Rupert spoke to the crowd estimated by ticket sales to number more than 1200.

Referring to the Cuban situation, Berlin and Laos, Rupert said "what the United States does, does not have to be acceptable to other nations. Rupert called himself a "conservative" Republican.

"WE DO not need presidential profiles. That's all we've had so far. But what we do need is courage and leadership."

He said the administration must stop "squandering hundreds of millions" in foreign aid for countries that are known to be Communist controlled.

Rupert pleaded "we must regain the leadership we have lost in the free world."

The Republican Club also gave life memberships to four Republicans, honoring them for their long service.

RECEIVING the memberships were: Edward A. Turville, Charles E. Fisher, Albert Roberts and State Atty. Clair A. Davis.

Other Republican candidates up for election and re-election also gave short introductory talks.